

Remarks

In response to the restriction requirement, applicant elects Group I including claims 1-9.

Withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested. It is submitted that claims 10 and 19 are sufficiently linked to claim 1 that they may properly be examined in a single application, particularly since an examination thereof would not involve any significant amount of extra work on the part of the Examiner. Claims 1, 10 and 19 read as follows (emphasis added):

1. A method of manufacturing a metallic filtration material, comprising the steps of:

- (a) forming a *metallic filtration media*, and
- (b) applying a *protective coating* to the metallic filtration media by either *chemical vapour deposition* or *physical vapour deposition*.

10. A metallic filtration material comprising, a *metallic filtration media*, which metallic filtration media comprises a *protective coating* applied to the metallic filtration material by either *chemical vapour deposition* or *physical vapour deposition*.

19. A filter unit comprising a *metallic filtration media* and a supporting structure, wherein the filtration media comprises a *protective coating* applied by either *chemical vapour deposition* or *physical vapour deposition*.

The Examiner states that "the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product such as a filter with a protective coating comprising material other than ceramic, silica, or metallic material or a filter with a support structure comprising material other than wire mesh." Independent claims 1, 10 and 19, however, say nothing about any specific material for the coating other than it being applied by either chemical vapour deposition or physical vapour deposition, nor do the independent claims say anything about a support structure comprising wire mesh. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's review should focus on the independent

claims since if the independent claims can properly be examined in a single application, the claims dependent therefrom also are properly examinable in a single application absent a situation that gives rise to an election of species.

Examination of all claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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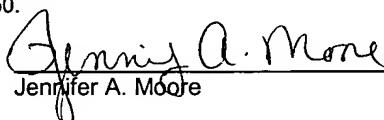
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Jennifer A. Moore

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